(c) if so, on what terms and when the work may be expected to be taken up on hand and what the recurring and non-recurring cost of the scheme and its maintenance will be?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The scheme to supply water to Salem town from the Mettur dam has not yet been sanctioned; nor have any orders been issued for the preparation of plans and estimates. It is proposed to ask the municipal council whether it is prepared to accept the proposals for financing the scheme on the basis of a half grant and half loan.

The approximate capital cost of the scheme is estimated at Rs. 22 lakhs and the annual maintenance charges at Rs. 52,720. If the council takes a loan of Rs. 11 lakhs towards its share of the cost and if it agrees to repay the loan in 30 years with interest at $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, it will have to find a sum of Rs. 77,788 in addition to the maintenance charges. The attention of the hon. Member is also invited to the answer to question No. 191.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know when the Government propose to issue final orders on this question?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"The question of the actual charge for water supplied is under examination; as soon as that is over, orders will be passed."

Supply of drinking water from Mettur dam to Salem town.

* 193 Q.—Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) in what stage the supply of drinking water to Salem town from Mettur project stands; and

(b) for how long the question of the supply of drinking water to Salem town from Mettur project has been pending?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Legislative Council question No. 191;

(b) The Sanitary Engineer's report on the investigation of the water-supply scheme was received in July 1931 and it has been under consideration since then.

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Proposals by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board for the appointment of Commissioners to Mutts.

* 194 Q.—Mr. K. SINGAM AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether there are any proposals by the Hindu Religious Endowments Board now pending before the Government for appointing Commissioners to the various Mutts; and

(b) if so, the grounds on which such proposals are based?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

Appointment of a committee for the Muslim Charitable and Religious Endowments in the Nilgiri district.

* 195 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any devasthanam committee was appointed by the Government at any time for the Muslim Charitable and Religious Endowments in the Nilgiri district under Act XX of 1863;

(b) if so, when the same was appointed and who constituted the committee;

(c) whether the committee is now functioning and who the present members of the committee are; and

(d) if not, whether there is any proposal before the Government to constitute a committee for the said district?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) These questions do not arise.

(d) No.

Alleged refusal of the Forest Officer, Tinnevelly, to permit the customary procession of the poosaries of Courtallam temple to pass through the forest to offer pooja in the Shambagadevi Falls.

* 196 Q.—Mr. A. Pl. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Forest Officer, Tinnevelly, refused to allow the temple poosaries of Courtallam temple last year on an important festival day to pass through the Reserved Forest area and perform pooja for the deity in the Shambagadevi Falls, which they have got a right to do;

(b) whether it is a fact that the pooja for the deity was suspended for that day; and

(c) whether the Government are prepared to take any action in the matter?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The Government have no information.

(c) No action is called for.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Is the place where the pooja has to be performed surrounded on all sides by reserved forests?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I must ask for notice."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Has a right of way been reserved to the temple?"

The hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"I believe so."